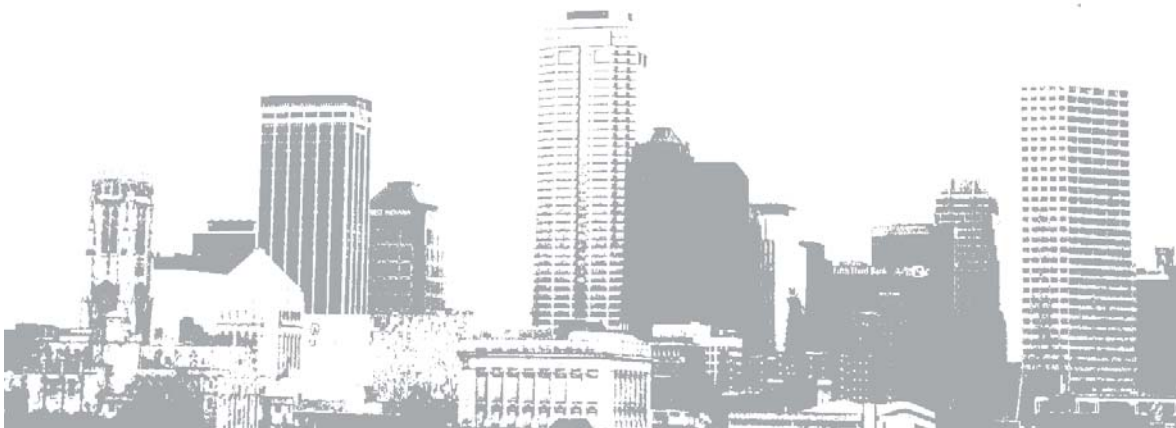


## **EPIDEMIOLOGY / POPULATIONS COMMITTEE NARRATIVE**



## **EPIDEMIOLOGY/POPULATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Prepared by Mark Hughes, Chair**

*Indiana CPG - Populations Prioritization Process*

The Epidemiology/ Populations Committee of the Indiana HIV Prevention CPG began meeting in April of 2006 to begin the population prioritization process for the 2008 - 2010 planning cycle. During the April CPG monthly meeting the Committee approved a schedule to carry out its tasks.

During the course of the 2006-07 CPG planning year concerns arose that in past years that priority setting relied very heavily on epidemiological data without consistent consideration of other important factors. A technical assistance request was submitted to the Behavior and Social Service Science Volunteer Program (BSSV), which is a national HIV prevention technical assistance program directed by the American Psychological Association, Office on AIDS funded by the CDC. In October 2006, Dr. Manoj Pardasani, PhD, Indiana University School of Social Work, and a BSSV that provided technical assistance and training that led to the adoption of a priority setting process that is scientific, objective, and multi-faceted in that several factors in addition to the epidemiological data are considered.

In November 2006, Luther Consulting and the State epidemiologist gave a presentation on the 2005 Indiana Epidemiological Profile to the full Community Planning Group.

In February 2007 the Epidemiology and Population Committee and Dr. Manoj Pardasani presented an overview of the Prioritization Process using a Power Point Presentation outlining the steps for Prioritizing Populations. Several areas were covered.

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Epidemiological Profile          | 8. Weighted Factors             |
| 2. Criteria                         | 9. Rating of other Factors      |
| 3. Size of Population               | 10. Member Survey Results       |
| 4. Point System/Scoring Sheet       | 11. Race/Ethnicity              |
| 5. AIDS Prevalence                  | 12. Multiple Risk Behaviors     |
| 6. New AIDS Cases                   | 13. Difficulty of Meeting Needs |
| 7. Barriers to Reach the Population |                                 |

The Final weighting factors are:

1. HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE
2. INCIDENCE RATE OF NEW INFECTION
3. DIFFICULTY IN MEETING NEEDS
4. BARRIERS TO REACHING TARGETED POPULATION
5. MULTIPLE RISK BEHAVIORS

In February 2007 the Epidemiology and Population Committee utilizing the newly adopted process made recommendation ranking HIV prevention target populations. After discussion and modifications, the recommendations of the committee with modifications were accepted.

The Prioritized Population list below will form the basis for the comprehensive HIV prevention plan that ISDH Division of HIV/STD will use in its application to CDC for HIV prevention funding.